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UNCLAS HARARE 000377

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/PDPA FOR DALTON, MITCHELL AND SIMS
NSC FOR JENDAYI FRAZER
LONDON FOR GURNEY
PARIS FOR NEARY
NAIROBI FOR PFLAUMER

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORT FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT; HARARE

11. Under headline "Africa and the French connection" the pro-government weekly "The Sunday Mirror" dedicated its February 23 edition to hailing French President Jacques Chirac and African leaders for coming out with a collective communique, at the just ended Franco-Africa Summit in Paris, opposed to a war against Iraq. Excerpts:
12. "The Franco-Africa summit ended in Paris on Friday, amid British and American anxiety on France's success in rallying Africa and most of the developing world against the current wave of Anglo-American imperialism. . . His biggest coup was the support he received from African leaders on his anti-war stance on Iraq. Much to the chagrin of Tony Blair and George Bush, African leaders signed a French document that expresses support for continued U. N. inspections and which states that, `there is an alternative to war. . . .'"

SULLIVAN